

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 AID-05 CEA-01 CIAE-00 COME-00 EB-07

EA-07 FRB-03 INR-07 IO-11 NEA-10 NSAE-00 OPIC-03

SP-02 TRSE-00 CIEP-01 LAB-04 SIL-01 OMB-01 DODE-00

NSCE-00 SSO-00 USIE-00 INRE-00 FEA-01 ERDA-05 FPC-01

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FM USMISSION OECD PARIS

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E.O. 1L652: N/A

TAGS: ENRG, OECD

SUBJECT: COUNCIL MEETING 3 FEBRUARY: COMMITTEE FOR
ENERGY POLICY DISCUSSION

REF: SHINN - BOSWORTH TELCON FEB. 2

1. AT FEBRUARY 3 COUNCIL MEETING, UNDER "OTHER
BUSINESS" AGENDA ITEM, FRENCH REP BOEGNER RAISED ISSUE
OF DATE FOR FIRST MEETING OF CEP AND CEP'S ROLE IN
NORTH/SOUTH DIALOGUE. HE RECALLED THAT ALMOST A YEAR
HAD ELAPSED SINCE COUNCIL TOOK DECISION TO ESTABLISH
CEP ON APRIL 29, 1975 AND ASSERTED THAT TIME IS NOW
RIPE FOR TAKING NECESSARY STEPS TO IMPLEMENT THAT
DECISION. FIRST MEETING SHOULD BE SCHEDULED ASAP. HE
NOTED THAT TERMS OF REFERENCE FOR CEP ARE VERY WIDE AND
COVER ALL ASPECTS OF ENERGY POLICY FIELD. MOREOVER,
ALTHOUGH OECD HAD MADE ARRANGEMENTS FOR FOLLOWING WORK
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OF OTHER CIEC COMMISSIONS IN THE TWO HIGH-LEVEL GROUPS

AND THE TWP, OECD LACKS SIMILAR BODY FOR FOLLOWING WORK OF THE ENERGY COMMISSION. HE HOPED COMMISSION WOULD MEET AT SUFFICIENTLY HIGH LEVEL TO BE ABLE EFFECTIVELY TO STUDY WHAT IS GOING ON IN THE DIALOGUE. HE STRESSED THAT ESTABLISHMENT OF OECD MECHANISM FOR FOLLOWING WORK OF ENERGY COMMISSION WAS URGENT IN VIEW OF FORTHCOMING DEVELOPMENTS AND GOF EXPECTED TO SEE ISSUE OF FIRST CEP MEETING DATE PLACED ON AGENDA FOR NEXT COUNCIL MEETING.

2. IN WHAT WAS OBVIOUSLY CAREFULLY PREPARED CAMPAIGN, FRENCH POSITION WAS STRONGLY SUPPORTED BY FINNS, PORTUGUESE AND GREEKS. FINNS SAID CEP SHOULD MEET ASAP AND COORDINATE VIEWS OF ALL OECD COUNTRIES IN ENERGY COMMISSION. VAN LENNEP AFFIRMED THAT SECRETARIAT IS PREPARED TO ARRANGE FOR MEETING OF CEP IN ACCORDANCE WITH COUNCIL DECISION TO ESTABLISH THAT COMMITTEE. IT COULD SERVE AS A FORUM FOR EXCHANGE OF VIEWS ON DIALOGUE. HE THOUGHT, HOWEVER, THAT INFORMAL DECISION SHOULD BE REACHED ON CHAIRMANSHIP--WHICH IS DECISION FOR COMMITTEE, NOT FOR COUNCIL--BEFORE FIRST CEP MEETING IS CALLED.

3. WITH EXCEPTION OF AUSTRIAN REP BOBLETER, WHO NOTED THAT "ALL OECD MEMBERS SHOULD HAVE SAME RIGHTS, AND FULLY UNDERSTOOD PREOCCUPATION OF SOME COUNTRIES WHO ARE NOT MEMBERS OF IEA IN CALLING FOR ACTIVATION OF CEP," NO OTHER IEA MEMBER GAVE SUPPORT TO FRENCH CONTENTION THAT CEP SHOULD PLAY BACKSTOPPING ROLE IN DIALOGUE. TURKEY LIMITED ITS COMMENTS TO BY NOW WELL KNOWN VIEW THAT HLG OF THE OLD OIL COMMITTEE HAS NO LEGAL EXISTENCE AND THAT TURKISH PARTICIPATION IN CEP WILL BE PREDICATED ON THIS ASSUMPTION. SPANISH REP VALLAURE SUPPORTED CALL FOR FIRST MEETING OF CEP BUT REMINDED COUNCIL THAT ANOTHER OECD BODY IS ALREADY HANDLING ENERGY MATTERS, "ALTHOUGH UNFORTUNATELY IT HAS ONLY 18 MEMBERS." VALLAURE STRESSED THAT SECRETARIAT SHOULD TAKE GREAT CARE TO SEE THAT CEP AVOIDS DUPLICATION OF WORK DONE IN IEA, AND SAID HE WAS SURE THAT MADRID "WOULD ONLY NEED TWO SECONDS TO DECIDE TO APPROVE IEA MEMBERSHIP FOR THE SIX NON-IEA OECD MEMBERS, SHOULD THEY APPLY TO JOIN."

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4. AMBASSADOR TURNER READ TEXT CLEARED WITH DEPARTMENT PREVIOUS EVENING (RE TELCON). TEXT IS QUOTED BELOW VERBATIM:

"WE ARE PREPARED TO ATTEND THE FIRST MEETING OF THE CEP, BUT BELIEVE IT PREMATURE TO TAKE UP THE QUESTION

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HERE TODAY OF WHAT THE COMMITTEE'S WORK PROGRAM SHOULD BE. THE PROPER TIME FOR THIS, AS THE FRENCH REP HAS SUGGESTED, IS AT THE COMMITTEE'S FIRST MEETING, WHEN THE CEP ITSELF, OPERATING WITHIN THE TERMS OF ITS MANDATE, SHOULD ESTABLISH ITS OWN WORK PROGRAM.

"WE DO BELIEVE, HOWEVER, THAT A CEP WORK PROGRAM SHOULD AVOID TO THE MAXIMUM EXTENT POSSIBLE, ANY DUPLICATION OF WORK DONE ELSEWHERE IN OECD, PARTICULARLY IN THE IEA. THIS IS NECESSARY TO INSURE THAT AN UNDUE WORK LOAD IS NOT CREATED FOR NATIONAL DELEGATIONS OF THE GREAT MAJORITY OF OECD MEMBERS WHO PARTICIPATE IN THE IEA.

"WE BELIEVE THAT, AS FAR AS COORDINATION OF ENERGY POSITIONS RE THE NORTH/SOUTH DIALOGUE IS CONCERNED, THE MOST EFFICIENT FORUM FOR THIS WILL CONTINUE TO BE IEA, WHICH HAS ALREADY DONE A GREAT DEAL

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OF WORK IN THIS REGARD AND WHOSE MEMBERS ARE DETERMINED TO REACH COMMON VIEWS ON THEIR ANALYSIS, OBJECTIVES AND POSITIONS IN THE ENERGY COMMISSION AS AN INTEGRAL APPROACH OF THEIR OVERALL COOPERATION IN THE FIELD OF ENERGY.

"COUNTRIES THAT ARE NOT IEA MEMBERS CAN BE KEPT INFORMED IN A VARIETY OF WAYS, FOR EXAMPLE THROUGH BILATERAL CONTACTS AND INFORMATION FROM THE CHAIRMAN AND THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF THE IEA. WITH RESPECT TO THE FRENCH INTEREST TO CONSULT, WE NOTE THE EC IS A FULL PARTICIPANT IN THE ENERGY COMMISSION."

5. BOEGNER RESPONDED THAT HE MUST "AMICABLY BUT STRONGLY DISAGREE WITH AMBASSADOR TURNER'S VIEWS ON MEANS OF COORDINATION AMONG OECD MEMBERS ON ENERGY COMMISSION DEVELOPMENTS. THERE MUST BE COORDINATION AMONG THE 24 ON RE THE ENERGY COMMISSION.

6. COMMENT: UK AND JAPAN HAVE INFORMED US THEY SUPPORT OUR POSITION, ALTHOUGH NONE OF IEA DELS OTHER THAN THREE MENTIONED ABOVE MADE ANY STATEMENT AT COUNCIL MEETING. WE CAN ANTICIPATE THAT FRENCH WILL CONTINUE TO LOBBY STRONGLY FOR THEIR POSITION WHICH APPEARS TO BE CAREFULLY CONCEIVED QUAI PLOY, BUT WE SHOULD BE ABLE TO HOLD LINE ON THIS (UNLESS DEPARTMENT INSTRUCTS US OTHERWISE) AT LEAST UNTIL CEP ITSELF MEETS TO DISCUSS ITS WORK PROGRAM. AT THAT TIME IT MIGHT BE MORE DIFFICULT TO WITHSTAND DETERMINED CONCERTED POSITION OF FRENCH AND OTHERS TO HAVE EXCHANGE OF VIEWS ON THE ENERGY COMMISSION.
TURNER

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